

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method performed by a client comprising:

storing a secret in a secure storage;

receiving a password challenge from a server; and

responsive to the password challenge calling a secure password prompt routine which accesses the secret in the secure storage, generates an authentication graphic based on the secret, and displaying a prompt asking a user for a password, the prompt including an the authentication graphic which is visible to the user; wherein the secure password prompt routine displays the authentication graphic for all password challenges, there being no requirement of an association between the server and the authentication graphic.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising making the authentication graphic known to the user so that wherein the user can identify the authentication graphic on the prompt prior to the user inputting a password in response to the prompt. verify the authenticity of the prompt by comparing the authentication graphic to a known graphic.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein making the authentication graphic known comprises the known graphic is physically attached to the authentication graphic to the client.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising: receiving the password from the user; generating a digest using the received password and password challenge; and sending the digest to the server.

7. The method of claim 3, wherein the secret becomes stored in the secure storage when first entered by the user.

8. The method of claim 3, wherein the secret becomes stored in the secure storage when generated based upon information entered by the user.

9. (Amended) A client device comprising:

a secure storage to store a secret;

a communications device to receive a password challenge from a server; and

a prompt authentication routine to in response to the password challenge access the secret in the secure storage, generate an authentication graphic based on the secret, and display a prompt asking a user for a password, the prompt including the authentication graphic which is visible to the user; wherein the secure password prompt routine displays the authentication graphic for all password challenges, there being no requirement of an association between the server and the authentication graphic..

~~a display device to display a prompt asking a user for a password, the prompt including an authentication graphic visible to the user.~~

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. The client device of claim 9 12, wherein the ~~known-~~ authentication graphic is ~~physically attached to the~~ included on a body of the client device.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing instructions that, when executed by a processor of a client, cause the processor to perform operations comprising:
receiving a password challenge from a server;
responsive to the password challenge calling a secure password prompt routine which accesses the secret in the secure storage, generates an authentication graphic based on the secret, and displaying a prompt asking a user for a password, the prompt including an the authentication graphic which is visible to the user; wherein the secure password prompt routine displays the authentication graphic for all password challenges, there being no requirement of an association between the server and the authentication graphic.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising making the authentication graphic known to the user so that wherein the user can identify the authentication graphic on the prompt prior to the user inputting a password in response to the prompt. verify the authenticity of the prompt by comparing the authentication graphic to a known graphic.

19. The method of claim 15, wherein making the authentication graphic known comprises the known graphic is physically attacheding the authentication graphic to the client.

20. The method of claim 15, further comprising:
receiving the password from the user; generating a digest using the received password and password challenge; and sending the digest to the server.

21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein making the authentication graphic known comprises including the authentication graphic in a user manual for the client.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the authentication is unique to the client.